

In the Restriction Requirement dated April 23, 2002, the Examiner stated:

13. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Fig 4A/4B; Fig. 16A/16B; Fig. 17; Fig 18; Fig. 20A/20B.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently claim 16 appears generic.

The Applicants elect the species of Figures 16A/16B with traverse.

The species of Figures 16A/16B is the same species as is shown in Figures 17, 18 and 20A/20B. The species of Figures 16A/16B is shown in cross-section in a stacked configuration in Figure 17. The species of Figures 16A/16B is shown in a partial detailed perspective view in Figure 18. The species of Figures 16A/16B are shown in a non-mobile position in Figure 20A and in a mobile position in Figure 20B (as shown interfacing with a mobile lifting device (280)). Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that the species of Figures 16A/16B, 17, 18, and 20A/20B are not patentably distinct and are illustrative of a common invention.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the election of the species of Figures 16A/16B also include Figures 17, 18 and 20A/20B.

No new matter has been added.

* * *

This Response is intended to be completely responsive to the Office communication dated June 20, 2002. The Applicants respectfully request that this Response be considered by the Examiner with the Reply and Amendment filed by the Applicants having a Certificate of Mailing dated May 23, 2002.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date July 18, 2002

By 

FOLEY & LARDNER

Customer Number: 26371



26371

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Telephone: (414) 297-5591

Facsimile: (414) 297-4900

John M. Lazarus
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 48,367